

1 IN THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS OF WESTMORELAND COUNTY, PA.

2 CIVIL DIVISION

3 \* \* \*

4 CHRISTINE BIROS, an Individual, )  
5 Plaintiff, )  
6 vs. )  
7 DENISE SCHUR, Executrix of the )  
ESTATE OF ALEX SCHUR; )  
8 HENRY L. MOORE and SUSAN STANO, ) No. 4886 of 2017  
Co-Executors of the ESTATE OF )  
9 NICHOLAS SCHUR; )  
10 KATHLEEN S. WALTER, Executer of )  
the ESTATE OF MICHAEL SCHUR; )  
11 CYNTHIA SARRIS, Administrator )  
of the ESTATE OF ANN SARRIS and )  
12 U LOCK, INC., a Pennsylvania )  
Corporation )  
13 Defendants. )  
14 )

15 \* \* \*

16 HEARD: April 29, 2019  
BEFORE: HONORABLE HARRY F. SMAIL, JR.  
17 \* \* \*  
NON-JURY TRIAL  
18 \* \* \*  
A P P E A R A N C E S

19 On behalf of the Plaintiff:  
20 William E. Otto, Esquire

21 On behalf of the Defendant U Lock, Inc:  
J. Allen Roth, Esquire

22 On behalf of D. Schur, H. Moore, S. Stano, C. Sarris:  
Dennis DelCotto, Esquire

23 On behalf of Kathleen Walter:  
24 John Tumolo, Esquire

25 As Co-Administrator for the Est. Of N. Schur:  
Henry L. Moore, Esquire

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1                             April 29, 2019 - 10:44 A.M.  
2                             P R O C E E D I N G S

3                             \* \* \*

4                             THE COURT: Call the case with regard to  
5                             Christine Biros, Plaintiff, versus Denise Schur,  
6                             Executrix of the Estate of Alex Schur; Henry L. Moore  
7                             and Susan Stano, Co-Executors of the Estate of Nicholas  
8                             Schur; Kathleen S. Walter, Executor of the Estate of  
9                             Michael Schur; Cynthia Sarris, Administrator of the  
10                            Estate of Ann Sarris; and U Lock, Incorporated, a  
11                            Pennsylvania Corporation, Defendants, at Case No. 4886  
12                            of 2017.

13                            Will counsel please enter your appearance  
14                            for the record?

15                            MR. OTTO: Good morning, Your Honor.  
16                            William Otto, attorney for plaintiff.

17                            MR. ROTH: Allen Roth on behalf of  
18                            Defendant U Lock.

19                            MR. DELCOTTO: Dennis DelCotto on behalf  
20                            Denise Schur, Executrix of Alex Schur, Henry L. Moore  
21                            and Susan Stano. They are actually Co-Administrators  
22                            d.b.a., c.t.n., Your Honor, of the Estate of Nicholas  
23                            Schur. The Estate of Cynthia Sarris, Administrator of  
24                            the Estate for Ann Sarris.

25                            MR. TUMOLO: John Tumolo on behalf of the

1 Estate of Michael Schur, Kathleen S. Walter.

2 MR. MOORE: Your Honor, Henry L. Moore.

3 I am the co-administrator d.b.n., c.t.a., for the Estate  
4 of Nicholas Schur.

5 THE COURT: Are all counsel ready to  
6 proceed?

7 MR. OTTO: Yes, Your Honor.

8 THE COURT: Attorney Otto, you may call  
9 your first witness.

10 MR. MOORE: Pardon me, Your Honor.

11 Prior --

12 THE COURT: Or would you like to do  
13 opening statements?

14 MR. MOORE: I would like to make a motion  
15 before we begin if that's all right?

16 THE COURT: That's fine.

17 MR. MOORE: The motion I would like to  
18 make, Your Honor, is in regard to the four estates  
19 involved in the case that ensure Executrix of the Estate  
20 of Alex Schur, myself, Henry L. Moore, and Susan Stano  
21 Co-Executors in the Estate of Nicholas Shur, Kathleen S.  
22 Walter, Executor of the Estate of Michael Schur, and  
23 Cynthia Sarris, Administrator of the Estate of Ann  
24 Sarris. Based on plaintiff's complaint and the numerous  
25 filings in the case, it's come to our attention that

1 what plaintiff's relief claim request of the  
2 four-party-defendant estate, and I quote, wherefore  
3 Plaintiff Christine Biros prays this Honorable Court  
4 entered an order in favor of Plaintiff Christine Biros,  
5 compelling Defendant Owners to convey the simple title  
6 to the property by deed to Plaintiff Christine Biros.

7                   At this time, all four estates are  
8 willing to issue an executor deed, a fiduciary deed, up  
9 through the date of the original closing July 16th,  
10 2015, in the name of Christine Biros in an offer to  
11 implead them into the court so that whatever party  
12 prevails, the deeds are available for recordation after  
13 you render verdict.

14                   And we ask to be dismissed as additional  
15 party defendants since that is what plaintiff has  
16 requested us to do.

17                   MR. TUMOLO: I would also add to that  
18 that there's been no cross claim filed.

19                   THE COURT: So you withdraw the --

20                   MR. TUMOLO: There were none.

21                   MR. MOORE: There are none filed.

22                   THE COURT: Oh, there are none filed.

23 Okay.

24                   MR. OTTO: Your Honor, the only objection  
25 my client might have with that is not related to the

1 motion that the estates have made, but specifically to  
2 the deeds, the date of the deeds. Since my client has  
3 had no possession or access to the property, the issue  
4 of back taxes and liability related to the property is  
5 at issue. Fundamentally, my client is not opposed to  
6 letting the estates out of the case provided they  
7 deliver the deeds with blank dates that the Court could  
8 then in its verdict establish.

9 THE COURT: With regard to the  
10 outstanding taxes, are you looking for a contribution  
11 from the estates in any form or fashion?

12 MR. OTTO: We are looking for  
13 contribution. My client feels very strongly that she  
14 shouldn't have to pay any of it. As a practical matter,  
15 there's a question of whether the Defendant U Lock has  
16 any assets other than the property itself.

17 THE COURT: Is there some counterproposal  
18 you would make to their motion to be relieved as parties  
19 to this action?

20 MR. OTTO: We have already discussed the  
21 possibility of them making a payment of \$10,000 towards  
22 the back taxes. We would accept that.

23 THE COURT: Okay. Mr. Roth, position  
24 with regard to the other three defendants?

25 MR. ROTH: From our perspective, Your

1 Honor, them being out of the case would not bother us.  
2 That would be fine.

3 THE COURT: Okay. Therefore, the Court  
4 will grant the motion, and the estates --

5 MR. ROTH: Excuse me, Your Honor. May I  
6 interrupt you? My client is whispering in my ear that  
7 he does object to them being released from the...

8 THE COURT: Well, do you want to take a  
9 minute and we can go off the record and you can speak  
10 outside if you like?

11 MR. ROTH: Sure. Give me just one  
12 moment.

13 THE COURT: Go ahead. We will go off the  
14 record and everybody can speak.

15 (OFF THE RECORD DISCUSSION.)

16 THE COURT: Let's go back on the record.

17 Mr. Roth?

18 MR. ROTH: Yes, Your Honor. Mr. Snyder  
19 has indicated to me that there are other shareholders  
20 involved in this corporation, and those shareholders  
21 have not been consulted about this. Therefore, he would  
22 object to them being released.

23 MR. MOORE: Your Honor, during our  
24 intermission I had an opportunity to speak with  
25 plaintiff's counsel. Since plaintiff's counsel, the

1 moving party, has requested that we provide the deeds --  
2 in this case implead those deeds to the Court, we would  
3 also be willing that currently I believe -- and it's not  
4 a matter of record -- but approximately \$13,000 in back  
5 taxes are owed on the property as it now stands. The  
6 four additional party defendant estates are not only to  
7 implead the deeds to the Court in the next two weeks, we  
8 are also willing to pay \$10,000 as consideration towards  
9 the back taxes. And I believe plaintiff's counsel  
10 indicated they would be fine with that.

11 THE COURT: Anybody else from the  
12 estates?

13 MR. TUMOLO: We concur, Your Honor,  
14 because at that point we would have done everything  
15 that's been asked by the plaintiff for us to do and  
16 there is no cross claim within the request for the  
17 relief.

18 THE COURT: Attorney for the plaintiff,  
19 anything further?

20 MR. OTTO: No, Your Honor.

21 THE COURT: At this time, I am going to  
22 grant the motion. With regard to Denise Schur,  
23 Executrix of the Estate of Alex Schur; Henry L. Moore  
24 and Susan Stano, Co-Executors of the Estate of Nicholas  
25 Schur; Kathleen S. Walter, Executor of the Estate of

1 Michael Schur; Cynthia Sarris, Administrator of the  
2 Estate of Ann Sarris are hereby granted relief and  
3 removed from the caption and out of the case with the  
4 requirement that deeds be impleaded and delivered to the  
5 Court no later than May the 13th of 2019 in such a  
6 fashion that their interest is removed, and the deeds  
7 will be made blank as to how they will be executed for  
8 the purposes of the parties by determination of the  
9 Court at the conclusion of said trial.

10 They will also deliver to plaintiff's  
11 counsel, William Otto, a check in the amount of \$10,000  
12 to be utilized for back taxes of what appears to be an  
13 outstanding balance of approximately \$13,000 in  
14 outstanding back taxes. They will be -- those funds  
15 will be submitted for the purpose of payment on an  
16 immediate basis upon receipt.

17 MR. OTTO: Yes, Your Honor.

18 MR. MOORE: One question for  
19 clarification. The deeds that would come from the four  
20 estates, all of them would be not dated? Will they  
21 still be made out to Christine Biros only, or do you  
22 actually want the grantee left blank?

23 THE COURT: I think until we finish the  
24 trial, the grantee should be left blank as well.

25 MR. OTTO: Your Honor, I ask that the

1 defendants remain in the court during the pendency of  
2 the trial just in case I need to call, for instance,  
3 Mr. Moore. I do have plans to call him.

4 MR. MOORE: We have no objection to that,  
5 Your Honor.

6 THE COURT: Therefore, counsel for the  
7 estates will remain for the duration of the trial.

8 MR. DELCOTTO: I have one question,  
9 though, Your Honor. I have prepared the deeds over the  
10 weekend in anticipation of what we are doing. I can  
11 e-mail them to everyone but one who does not communicate  
12 with me by e-mail. I don't foresee a problem with the  
13 ten days, but in the event that you were on vacation or  
14 something like that, could we apply to the court --

15 MR. OTTO: No objection to that. I know  
16 that can be a little bit --

17 THE COURT: Any objection pushing it out  
18 to May the 20th?

19 MR. ROTH: No objection.

20 THE COURT: Okay. Therefore, we will  
21 move it to May the 20th instead of May the 13th. That  
22 will allow you three full weeks of time. I don't want  
23 to see this get delayed too much further than that  
24 because this is a 2017 case. We are already two and a  
25 half years into it.

1                   MR. DELCOTTO: I will make every effort  
2 to have it in within ten days, Your Honor.

3                   MR. MOORE: Your Honor, not to belabor  
4 the point, should we wait until the Court renders a  
5 decision as to who is the victor before we e-mail those  
6 out, or do we put the actual name on the --

7                   THE COURT: Well, you are asking to be  
8 relieved and removed from the case, so therefore your  
9 interest, with all due respect, is -- has been granted  
10 as removed. The position and posture of the case is it  
11 should be left blank with the execution of your parties  
12 and submitted to the Court by May the 20th. At that  
13 point in time, in accordance with whatever outcome order  
14 of court or opinion this Court makes, the deeds will  
15 then be then filled in with regard to the grantor and  
16 grantees with respect to the deeds.

17

18                   MR. MOORE: Very good. Thank you.

19                   THE COURT: At this time, Mr. Otto, your  
20 first witness?

21                   MR. OTTO: Your Honor, Mr. Roth --

22                   MR. ROTH: I have one thing before we  
23 start. This goes back to what I argued on Friday.

24                   THE COURT: You have a motion?

25                   MR. ROTH: Yes, a motion that I argued on

1 Friday, which you already denied. I think I need  
2 something on the record to show we are asking that we  
3 continue the trial.

4 THE COURT: Do you want to elaborate  
5 further why you believe that's appropriate?

6 MR. ROTH: First of all, there was  
7 outstanding pleadings in the case.

8 THE COURT: What are those exactly?

9 MR. ROTH: Well those outstanding  
10 pleadings were by the other defendants, and they just  
11 issued an answer with new matter and nobody responded to  
12 the new matter and it's only been about a week since  
13 that happened. I don't think the pleadings are  
14 complete. Therefore, we would ask that the case be  
15 continued because of that.

16 In addition to that, no certificate of  
17 readiness was issued in this case by the plaintiff, and  
18 therefore we don't believe that the trial should begin  
19 without us being able to answer the certificate of  
20 readiness. Therefore, we ask that the trial be  
21 continued.

22 THE COURT: My understanding is there is  
23 a new matter out there in the pleadings?

24 MR. DELCOTTO: There was new matter, but  
25 we didn't even endorse a full response, Your Honor. It

1 basically attached the agreement of sale. The reason  
2 that wasn't filed until then is there were outstanding  
3 preliminary objections as to removal of --

4 THE COURT: Sir, you are going to have to  
5 put your cell phone away. We are in the middle of a  
6 trial.

7 MR. G. SNYDER: I was just looking at the  
8 time. I'm sorry.

9 MR. DELCOTTO: We withdrew the  
10 preliminary objections, Your Honor. At that point we  
11 were free to file the answer and we did. There is  
12 really no responses required, especially since we are  
13 not involved in the case.

14 MR. OTTO: Your Honor, after our argument  
15 here on Friday, I filed an answer to the new matter. My  
16 comment to Mr. Roth's motion is that we had an argument  
17 on the 29th of March, which Mr. Roth was not present  
18 for. The following Monday, I filed a praecipe for  
19 trial. You issued an order on April 4th. Even with  
20 that, he had more than three weeks to file a response  
21 prior to today and waited until the Monday prior to last  
22 week. You know, if it was really that critical that he  
23 get discovery, he could have done discovery a long time  
24 ago and he could have raised these matters right after  
25 the issuance of the order.

1                   THE COURT: Prior to this most recent  
2 exchange, discovery was essentially closed for months.  
3 Is that my understanding?

4                   MR. OTTO: Mine was completed in  
5 February. My discovery was sent out in December or  
6 January and Mr. Roth responded in February. I never did  
7 any depositions. I might have had the opportunity  
8 arisen, but I have no problem with where we are right  
9 now, no. He certainly had the opportunity in the one  
10 document he cited on Friday that he really didn't have  
11 was actually attached to my answer and new matter that I  
12 filed in October of last year.

13                  THE COURT: Any response to either  
14 statements made by the attorneys?

15                  MR. ROTH: No response, Your Honor.

16                  THE COURT: The Court, in consistency  
17 with the situation on Friday, is denying the motion with  
18 prejudice. We will now proceed into trial. I will  
19 execute this order in denial with prejudice as I did the  
20 order on Friday. The motion is denied.

21                  At this time, counsel, you may call your  
22 first witness.

23                  MR. OTTO: May I make an opening  
24 statement, Your Honor.

25                  THE COURT: Oh, I'm sorry. Yes. That's

1 fine.

2 MR. OTTO: This is actually a simple case  
3 made confusing by the actions of Defendant U Lock.  
4 Simply stated, four estates agreed to sell real estate.  
5 They entered into an agreement of sale when the  
6 individual represented himself as the incorporator of a  
7 to-be-formed company. There were a number of delays on  
8 the closing date. My client, Christine Biros, was asked  
9 by her brother to loan the purchase price for the  
10 purchase. And despite request for documentation prior  
11 to the closing, she was only given lip service.

12 Finally, one or two days prior to  
13 closing, she was informed that the money was necessary  
14 immediately. She scrambled around trying to get  
15 together bank checks in the amount of \$309,213.30. On  
16 the closing date before going into the closing, she made  
17 a last request for documentation, which was provided by  
18 a purported director of U Lock. After the closing, she  
19 spent over a year and a half asking for repayment and  
20 got only lip service again. Finally, this lawsuit  
21 resulted.

22 She learned at the time of the conveyance  
23 U Lock had not been formed as a corporation. Under  
24 Pennsylvania law, the deeds are void ab initio.  
25 Therefore, the estate still owned the property at the

1 time our complaint was filed. Ms. Biros's claim is  
2 based on simple principles. She paid the entire  
3 purchase price and that went directly from her to the  
4 estates without going through U Lock. The estate still  
5 owned the property at the time the complaint was filed,  
6 but the estates were obligated to convey to whoever paid  
7 them for it. U Lock never made any effort to fulfil  
8 their obligations to Ms. Biros. And Ms. Biros has an  
9 X-amount claim to the real estate.

10                   Although purported corrective deeds were  
11 filed in March of 2018, Your Honor, they're subject by  
12 the language of the deeds to lis pendens and are  
13 ineffectual against Ms. Biros's higher claim of  
14 equitable title.

15                   THE COURT: At this time, Mr. Roth, would  
16 you like to make an opening statement?

17                   MR. ROTH: Sure.

18                   THE COURT: Okay.

19                   MR. ROTH: Defendant U Lock became a  
20 corporation. They attempted to become a corporation  
21 beginning on the day before the actual closing on the  
22 events here. They followed through and did become a  
23 corporation. We believe that that's a de facto  
24 corporation, and therefore the Court should recognize  
25 U Lock as a de facto corporation.

1                   As a result of that, U Lock made a loan  
2 from Ms. Biros, and they got the loan. Those loan  
3 proceeds were used to purchase this property in U Lock's  
4 name.

5                   THE COURT: Not to interrupt your opening  
6 statement, but did they become a corporation the day  
7 before the closing, or they started the process?

8                   MR. ROTH: They did it online and filed  
9 it online. That's what they did and that's what you  
10 will hear in the testimony.

11                  THE COURT: Okay.

12                  MR. ROTH: They later completed becoming  
13 a corporation. That's why we believe they are in fact a  
14 de facto corporation. Introduce you to that, this was  
15 actually a loan from Ms. Biros to U Lock or to the  
16 owners of U Lock. What they did with the money was  
17 purchase land. We don't believe they have a claim to  
18 that land because they have claim to their money.

19                  They would be entitled to sue to get  
20 their money back because they are entitled to that  
21 money, but I don't believe -- they have no interest in  
22 this land. They never had any interest in the land.  
23 Therefore, they should have no right to take the land as  
24 to what they believe they should get, and that's our  
25 position.

1                   THE COURT: Thank you very much. At this  
2 time, Mr. Otto, are you ready to proceed?

3                   MR. OTTO: I am, Your Honor.

4                   THE COURT: Who do you want to call?

5                   MR. OTTO: I call Henry Moore, please.

6                   THE COURT: If you will raise your right  
7 hand to be sworn.

8

9                   HENRY L. MOORE, having been  
10 first duly sworn, was examined  
11 and testified as follows:

12

13                   THE COURT: Thank you. You may take the  
14 witness stand. Once he is situated, you may proceed.

15                   MR. OTTO: Thank you, Your Honor.

16                   \* \* \*

17                   DIRECT EXAMINATION

18                   BY MR. OTTO:

19 Q.               Good morning, Mr. Moore.

20 A.               Good morning.

21 Q.               What's your position in this case?

22 A.               I am the Co-Administrator c.t.a., d.b.n., of  
23 the Estate of Nicholas Schur.

24 Q.               Were you at the, what I'll call, exchange of  
25 deeds and dollars of July 16th of 2015?

1 A. I was.

2 Q. I would like to show you some checks.

3 MR. OTTO: Your Honor, I would like to  
4 mark this as Exhibit P-1.

5 THE COURT: Okay.

6 BY MR. OTTO:

7 Q. Do you recognize those checks?

8 A. Yes.

9 Q. And what do they represent?

10 A. These were the funds that were paid to  
11 Mr. DelCotto and I at closing. To clarify my previous  
12 answer, I do believe one of those checks I did not  
13 actually see. That would be the check that Mr. Tumolo  
14 actually closed prior to us getting there. So I  
15 physically -- three checks I saw. I did not see -- the  
16 Kathleen Walters check; is that correct? Right. The  
17 other three checks I did see and I was there at the  
18 closing. Those three checks I did see.

19 Q. Okay. Do you see the name of U Lock anywhere  
20 on those checks?

21 A. I do not.

22 Q. Were the estates fully paid?

23 A. We were.

24 Q. Now, in Mr. Roth's opening he said that  
25 U Lock was a de facto corporation. Did you have any

1 reason to question whether U Lock had been incorporated  
2 properly or not?

3 A. No.

4 Q. And you are an attorney at law; is that  
5 correct?

6 A. Correct.

7 Q. I'm going to show you two documents.

8 MR. OTTO: Your Honor, I would like to  
9 mark these Exhibit P-2 and P-3 respectively. Your  
10 Honor, that's P-2.

11 THE COURT: Okay.

12 BY MR. OTTO:

13 Q. Not that you would have seen this document  
14 before, but have you seen similar filings?

15 A. Yes.

16 Q. In essence, what does it say? Please take a  
17 moment.

18 A. Basically your Subsection 103, your filing  
19 lacks the specific brief statement of businesses. Refer  
20 to the proper paragraph on the docketing statement.

21 MR. OTTO: Your Honor, this is Exhibit  
22 P-3.

23 THE COURT: Okay.

24 BY MR. OTTO:

25 Q. What is that?

1 A. It's a creation of a corporation by the  
2 Secretary of the Commonwealth, Pedro Cortez.

3 Q. And what does it say in the second and third  
4 paragraph?

5 A. Creation filing filed September 4th of '15.

6 Q. Would you disagree with me if I said the two  
7 documents indicate that U Lock filed -- attempted to  
8 file articles of incorporation which were rejected, and  
9 then finally filed effective articles of incorporation  
10 on September 4th, 2015?

11 A. I would agree with that.

12 MR. OTTO: Thank you. No further -- I do  
13 have one. Sorry.

14 Your Honor, I would like to mark this  
15 Exhibit P-4.

16 BY MR. OTTO:

17 Q. Do you recognize that, Mr. Moore?

18 A. I do.

19 Q. And what is it?

20 A. The settlement sheet to the closing.

21 Q. Would you look please at line -- it's a  
22 little hard to read -- 501 on the right column?

23 A. Yes.

24 Q. What is that?

25 A. Excess deposit.

1 Q. How much?

2 A. Thirty thousand dollars.

3 Q. Okay. Down below it indicates that the  
4 sellers were supposed to get \$279,213.30, but in fact  
5 they got \$309,000. Do you know what happened to the  
6 other \$30,000?

7 A. Yes.

8 Q. What happened?

9 A. We originally had a -- a \$20,000 deposit was  
10 made by the incorporator of U Lock. I believe it was  
11 Eric Martin. We had a closing set up at the  
12 Westmoreland County Bar Association. On the day of  
13 closing, Mr. DelCotto and I appeared. No one from  
14 U Lock appeared. So we sat for there about an hour and  
15 then we left.

16 At that point in time, I instructed  
17 Mr. DelCotto that the deal must have fallen through. No  
18 one from U Lock bothered to tell us why they didn't  
19 come. At that point Mr. DelCotto subsequently thereto  
20 got a hold of someone from U Lock. The only way the  
21 deal was resurrected would be I demanded another \$10,000  
22 deposit money. So twenty thousand became thirty  
23 thousand, and the settlement date was set again for  
24 July 16th. So that's how twenty thousand became thirty.

25 I believe from my recollection at that time

1 at the request of U Lock, they wished to have that  
2 \$30,000 hand money returned to the incorporator, Eric  
3 Martin, and pay us the full amount of the loan, which  
4 came down to \$325,000. Once you minused out the back  
5 taxes it came to \$309,213.80 or something like that.

6 Q. Based on your understanding of events, did  
7 U Lock ever pay anything?

8 A. Not on the first closing. No one appeared.

9 On the date of the second closing, I believe --

10 Q. Let me interrupt you. If they gave you hand  
11 money of \$30,000 and you returned \$30,000 to  
12 Mr. Martin --

13 A. I believe Mr. DelCotto did, yeah. By check.

14 Q. If that's the case, did U Lock pay anything?  
15 They advanced \$30,000, but they received that back?

16 A. Right. The way you state it, we received  
17 full consideration at the time on July 16th.

18 Q. From Ms. Biros?

19 A. She was the remitter of the checks. She was  
20 present.

21 MR. OTTO: Thank you. No further  
22 questions, Your Honor.

23 THE COURT: Cross-examination?

24 \* \* \*

25

1                           CROSS-EXAMINATION

2                           BY MR. ROTH:

3                           Q.                 Are you familiar was there sales agreements  
4                           prior to the sale happening?

5                           A.                 Yes.

6                           Q.                 Who signed those sales agreement?

7                           A.                 Eric Martin as Incorporator of U Lock.

8                           MR. ROTH:     Should we mark this

9                           Defendant's 1?

10                          THE COURT:    Well, actually A.

11                          Just a matter of housekeeping, Mr. Otto,  
12                          are you moving all four items into evidence at this  
13                          time?

14                          MR. OTTO:    Yes, Your Honor.

15                          THE COURT:    Any objection to plaintiff's  
16                          exhibits coming in as evidence?

17                          MR. ROTH:    No objection.

18                          THE COURT:    There being no objection,  
19                          Plaintiff's Exhibits 1, 2, 3 and 4 are so moved into  
20                          evidence without objection.

21                          MR. OTTO:    Thank you, Your Honor.

22                          BY MR. ROTH:

23                          Q.                 I'm going to show you what's been marked as  
24                          Defendant's Exhibit A and ask if you can identify that?

25                          MR. OTTO:    Do you have copies?

1 MR. ROTH: I don't have any copies.

2 THE COURT: Hold on a second. Let's step  
3 out for five minutes then until we get copies. I would  
4 make five of those. All right. Thank you.

5 We will come back in five minutes and  
6 resume.

7 (PROCEEDINGS RECESSED -- 11:16 A.M.)

8 (PROCEEDINGS RECONVENED -- 11:26 A.M.)

9 THE COURT: Mr. Moore, if you will take  
10 the stand again.

11 Okay, Mr. Roth, we are back on the  
12 record.

13 BY MR. ROTH:

14 Q. I have handed you a document which is  
15 entitled Defendant's Exhibit A. Are you familiar with  
16 that document?

17 A. I am.

18 Q. Is this the sales agreement for the  
19 transaction that involves the land involved in this  
20 trial?

21 A. It is.

22 Q. On that sales agreement, can you tell us who  
23 the buyer is?

24 A. Eric Martin, Incorporator for U Lock,  
25 Incorporated.

1 Q. At the time of this transaction, did you  
2 have -- at the time that this agreement was signed, did  
3 you have any idea who Ms. Biros was?

4 A. No.

5 Q. So you never met her? You didn't know her?

6 A. No.

7 Q. You believed you were selling this property  
8 to U Lock, Incorporated, via Eric Martin as an  
9 incorporator?

10 A. Correct.

11 MR. ROTH: No further questions, Your  
12 Honor.

13 MR. OTTO: One question on redirect.

14 THE COURT: You may.

15 \* \* \*

16 REDIRECT EXAMINATION

17 BY MR. OTTO:

18 Q. Mr. Moore, to your recollection, when the  
19 dates were executed, did you convey them to Eric Martin  
20 or somebody else?

21 A. No. U Lock, Incorporated.

22 MR. OTTO: Thank you. No further  
23 questions.

24 THE COURT: Based on that redirect, any  
25 recross?

1 \* \* \*

2 RECROSS-EXAMINATION

3 BY MR. ROTH:

4 Q. Were you present for the actual closing in  
5 this matter?

6 A. Yes.

7 Q. Was Eric Martin at that closing?

8 A. I don't know who Eric Martin is.

9 Q. So you don't know him?

10 A. No.

11 Q. Were funds -- there were funds that were  
12 actually paid to you prior to the actual closing in this  
13 case; is that correct?

14 A. Correct.

15 Q. And that started at twenty thousand and  
16 increased to thirty thousand I believe was your  
17 testimony?

18 A. Correct.

19 Q. And do you know where those funds came from?

20 A. No.

21 MR. ROTH: No further questions, Your  
22 Honor.

23 THE COURT: Based on that, any redirect?

24 MR. OTTO: I didn't hear Mr. Roth's  
25 question clearly. What was your last question?

1                   THE COURT: I will tell it to you. There  
2 were funds actually paid to you prior to the actual  
3 closing in this case? Correct. That started at twenty  
4 thousand and increased to thirty thousand I believe was  
5 your testimony? Those were the two -- I think the two  
6 questions. Oh, I'm sorry. And do you know where the  
7 funds came from? No.

8                   MR. OTTO: Okay.

9                   THE COURT: So any redirect?

10                  MR. OTTO: No further questions.

11                  THE COURT: Anything further, Mr. Roth?

12                  MR. ROTH: Nothing further.

13                  THE COURT: Sir, you may stand down.

14 Thank you for your testimony.

15                  At this time, do you wish to move  
16 Defendant's Exhibit A into evidence?

17                  MR. ROTH: Please, Your Honor.

18                  THE COURT: Any objection?

19                  MR. OTTO: No objection.

20                  THE COURT: There being no objection, it  
21 is so moved into evidence and marked as Defendant's  
22 Exhibit A without objection.

23                  At this time, next witness?

24                  MR. OTTO: Call Christine Biros, Your  
25 Honor.

1 THE COURT: Okay.

3       CHRISTINE BIROS, having been  
4       first duly sworn, was examined  
5       and testified as follows:

7 THE COURT: When you are ready, your  
8 witness.

9 MR. OTTO: Thank you, Your Honor.

10 | \* \* \*

DIRECT EXAMINATION

12 | BY MR. OTTO:

13 Q. Ms. Biros, how did you wind up paying  
14 approximately \$309,000 to the estate?

15 A. My brother asked me to do that. I did it for  
16 him.

17 Q. Would you have loaned money to U Lock on your  
18 own?

19 A. No.

20 Q. Was it for an investment?

21 | A. Not for me, no.

22 MR. OTTO: One second. Your Honor, this  
23 is the Exhibit P-5.

THE COURT: Okay.

25 BY MR. OTTO:

1 Q. Do you recognize this document?

2 A. I do.

3 Q. How did you come to get this?

4 A. Before going into the closing, I asked for  
5 some sort of guarantee that I would get my money paid  
6 back to me from them, being U Lock, Snyders, whoever. I  
7 wanted to make sure that I was getting paid back.

8 Q. Can you read that, please?

9 A. It says this loan agreement between U Lock,  
10 Incorporated, Borrower, a Pennsylvania Corporation  
11 and -- I think it says and -- Christine Biros, Lender  
12 and/or guarantor collateralized from S&T Bank for sum of  
13 \$325,316. The terms and condition of the payment will  
14 be agreed upon on or before 8/16/15. Lender will set  
15 terms of agreement if not settled by that date. It is  
16 signed by Kash Snyder, Director of U Lock, Incorporated,  
17 on 7/16/15.

18 Q. Okay. Let's talk about this situation. July  
19 16th, '15 was the closing day; is that correct?

20 A. It was.

21 Q. Did you come to agreement on the terms before  
22 August 16th, 2015?

23 A. No.

24 Q. Did you attempt to get repaid between then  
25 and when you filed this case?

1 A. Several times.

2 Q. Did they ever make any payment to you?

3 A. Not one.

4 Q. Did you advance any further sums to them?

5 A. Five thousand dollars.

6 Q. Why would you do that?

7 A. To pay the taxes is what I was told on the  
8 property.

9 Q. Okay. When you tried to get repaid, who did  
10 you talk to and what was his reaction?

11 A. I spoke with George Snyder, Jr. I guess it's  
12 junior.

13 Q. Is he in the courtroom?

14 A. He is.

15 Q. Is that him?

16 A. That's him.

17 Q. What was his reaction?

18 A. Give him more time. He just needed more  
19 time. He needed 30 days, 60 days, 90 days, six months.

20 Q. Did anything happen other than delays and  
21 more delays?

22 A. Nothing.

23 Q. Did they ever make a counterproposal? They  
24 ever offer to pay --

25 A. They never came up with any money if that's

1 what you're asking me. No.

2 MR. OTTO: No further questions, Your  
3 Honor.

4 THE COURT: Okay. Mr. Roth,  
5 cross-examination?

6 \* \* \*

7 CROSS-EXAMINATION

8 BY MR. ROTH:

9 Q. You agree this was a loan to U Lock or to  
10 Mr. Snyder, or one of the Snyders; correct?

11 A. I lent them the money expecting to get paid  
12 back; that's right.

13 Q. In fact, you weren't paid back were you?

14 A. Not one dime.

15 Q. And that's why you filed this lawsuit because  
16 you wanted to get paid back?

17 A. Yes. But it says I will set the terms and  
18 agreement if not settled by that date. That was their  
19 agreement with me.

20 Q. I understand that. You weren't paid back and  
21 you were dissatisfied with that and that's why you are  
22 in the courtroom today; correct?

23 A. Correct. I prefer to have the cash. Do you  
24 have it?

25 THE COURT: Ma'am, you are a witness.

1 You don't get to ask questions. You only get to hear  
2 them and respond to them.

3 Go ahead, Mr. Roth.

4 BY MR. ROTH:

5 Q. You sent letters to Mr. Snyder, didn't you?

6 A. Through my attorney?

7 Q. Actually, I think on your own at one point;  
8 is that correct?

9 A. If I could see it, please? We are going back  
10 four years here.

11 Q. I'm going to show you what's been marked as  
12 Defendant's Exhibit B and ask if you can identify that?

13 A. Can I have a minute to read it?

14 Q. Sure. Take your time.

15 MR. OTTO: Your Honor, I believe we are  
16 willing to stipulate that a letter was given by  
17 Ms. Biros to Mr. Snyder in an effort to obtain  
18 repayment.

19 THE COURT: Is that stipulated?

20 MR. ROTH: If we can introduce it into  
21 evidence?

22 THE COURT: That's fine.

23 MR. ROTH: The one thing -- I was just  
24 going to asking one question.

25 THE COURT: That's fine. You can still

1 ask her questions. You accept plaintiff's stipulation,  
2 though, as to the letter being sent from Christine Biros  
3 to your client?

4 MR. ROTH: (Nods head.)

5 THE COURT: Okay. Stipulation so  
6 accepted by the Court.

7 MR. ROTH: I ask that it be introduced  
8 into evidence, Your Honor.

9 THE COURT: Any objection to the letter  
10 being introduced?

11 MR. OTTO: No, Your Honor.

12 THE COURT: So moved into evidence and  
13 marked as Defendant's Exhibit B and moved into evidence.

14 Mr. Otto, with regard to Plaintiff's  
15 Exhibit No. 5, do you wish to move that into evidence?

16 MR. OTTO: I do, Your Honor. I  
17 apologize.

18 THE COURT: Any objection?

19 MR. ROTH: No objection.

20 THE COURT: There being no objection,  
21 that is also moved into evidence as Plaintiff's Exhibit  
22 No. 5 without objection.

23 BY MR. ROTH:

24 Q. Now, this is the letter we are referring to  
25 is written to George Snyder of U Lock, Incorporated; is

1 that correct?

2 A. He represented U Lock.

3 Q. And immediately under that, you have the item  
4 that says Re: Loan from Christine Biros to U Lock,  
5 Incorporated; is that correct?

6 A. Yes.

7 Q. So that means you were treating this as a  
8 loan the entire time?

9 MR. OTTO: Objection, Your Honor. She  
10 already admitted she loaned the money to Defendant  
11 U Lock.

12 THE COURT: It's his cross-examination.  
13 I am going to overrule the objection. Go ahead and  
14 proceed.

15 BY MR. ROTH:

16 Q. So you treated it as a loan the entire time;  
17 is that correct?

18 A. Yes.

19 Q. And you went to a closing; is that correct?

20 A. Yes.

21 Q. And you supplied some funds at that closing;  
22 is that right?

23 A. Yes.

24 Q. And did you see the documents that were being  
25 exchanged at that closing?

1 A. No.

2 Q. You didn't see any of them?

3 A. I only saw my checks and that. I didn't  
4 see -- I saw Kash Snyder signing documents. That's all  
5 I saw.

6 Q. Were you familiar with why they were at a  
7 closing? Were they getting land? Is that what they  
8 were doing?

9 A. They were purchasing property.

10 Q. And you knew they were purchasing property?

11 A. Yes.

12 Q. And since Mr. Snyder was the one signing the  
13 papers, the property was going to Mr. Snyder you  
14 assumed? I assume you assumed that.

15 A. I didn't assume anything at that point. I  
16 didn't know who the property was going to.

17 Q. But you knew the property was not going to  
18 you? You didn't sign any papers that day in order for  
19 the property to go to you?

20 A. That's correct.

21 MR. ROTH: May I have one second, Your  
22 Honor?

23 THE COURT: Sure.

24 MR. ROTH: That's all the questions I  
25 have, Your Honor.

1                   THE COURT: Any redirect at this time,  
2 Mr. Otto?

3                   MR. OTTO: No questions, Your Honor.

4                   THE COURT: Thank you. Ma'am, if you  
5 will pass me that letter up?

6                   MR. OTTO: The other one.

7                   THE COURT: The other. Thank you. You  
8 may stand down and return back to counsel table.

9                   MR. ROTH: Judge, if you want to  
10 substitute, I have a better copy -- if you want to  
11 substitute this for -- I forget what exhibit it was.

12                  THE COURT: It's already into evidence.  
13 It's already been marked. But we appreciate that.  
14 Thank you.

15                  At this time, Mr. Otto, next witness?

16                  MR. OTTO: Call Eric Martin, Your Honor.

17                  THE COURT: Okay.

18                  MR. ROTH: Eric Martin is not here, Your  
19 Honor.

20                  MR. OTTO: Your Honor, Mr. Martin is the  
21 director of U Lock. He was involved in the transaction.  
22 I informed Mr. Roth on Friday that I wanted him here for  
23 this trial.

24                  THE COURT: Mr. Roth, why isn't he here?

25                  MR. ROTH: I got a request to have him

1 present, Your Honor. My client, Mr. Snyder, contacted  
2 him -- tried to contact him to get him in here.  
3 Apparently he works a night shift is what I'm told.  
4 He's not been able to reach him ever since I got the  
5 request to have him here, and I got that on Friday.

6 THE COURT: Okay. Mr. Otto, what would  
7 be your offer of proof with regard to Eric Martin?

8 MR. OTTO: Several questions, Your Honor.  
9 Mostly related to the \$30,000. I wanted to find out  
10 from him what the source was of the \$30,000 and to  
11 confirm from him personally that he received repayment  
12 of that. I have had Mr. Moore testify that the money  
13 was returned to him, but only Mr. Martin can answer that  
14 question.

15 THE COURT: Mr. Roth, would you stipulate  
16 that Eric Martin received \$30,000 reimbursement funds?

17 MR. ROTH: Yes, Your Honor. We will  
18 stipulate to that.

19 THE COURT: Would that satisfy your  
20 inquiry?

21 MR. OTTO: Yes, Your Honor.

22 THE COURT: The Court takes judicial  
23 notice that had Eric Martin appeared for court, that he  
24 did in fact receive back the entire \$30,000 in hand  
25 money that was either advanced by him or some other

1 individual associated with the then incorporating  
2 U Lock, Incorporated. The Court will also take judicial  
3 notice at that time it was not incorporated until after  
4 September of 2015.

5 MR. OTTO: Thank you, Your Honor. One  
6 last item that I would have asked for from Mr. Martin,  
7 and that is whether he was aware of any other payments  
8 that were made on behalf of U Lock towards the purchase  
9 price since he paid \$30,000 down and got \$30,000 back.  
10 It appears that U Lock did not make any payments at all  
11 towards the purchase price. I wanted to confirm that.

12 THE COURT: Mr. Roth?

13 MR. ROTH: We don't confirm what he just  
14 said. U Lock did make the payment, they just got  
15 reimbursed. So, yes, they did make a payment towards  
16 this purchase price, but they did get reimbursed.

17 THE COURT: I think the way he phrased it  
18 was any other payment, that there were none made other  
19 than the \$30,000 advanced and then the reimbursed.

20 MR. ROTH: We agree with that.

21 THE COURT: Okay. It's so stipulated  
22 then if Eric Martin were here, he would have testified  
23 that there were no other payments made outside of the  
24 \$30,000 in hand money, which was ultimately reimbursed  
25 in its entirety back to him --

1 MR. OTTO: Thank you.

2 THE COURT: -- or others associated with  
3 the corporation.

4 MR. OTTO: No further questions -- no  
5 other witnesses on direct. I would like to reserve the  
6 right to make a closing statement as well as to call  
7 witnesses after Mr. Roth's case.

8 THE COURT: You want to keep your case  
9 open until that time?

10 MR. OTTO: Yes.

11 THE COURT: Okay. Mr. Roth, at this  
12 time, are you prepared to proceed on your case-in-chief?

13 MR. ROTH: Yes. I would like to call  
14 Mr. Snyder, please.

15 THE COURT: If you will come around this  
16 way.

17  
18 GEORGE SNYDER, having been  
19 first duly sworn, was examined  
20 and testified as follows:

21

22 THE COURT: You may take the witness  
23 stand.

24 Mr. Roth, your witness.

25 \* \* \*

DIRECT EXAMINATION

2 | BY MR. ROTH:

3 | Q. State your name, please.

4 A. George Snyder.

5 Q. Where do you live, George?

6 A. 150 Leger Road. North Huntington.

7 Q. Are you a person that's been involved in the  
8 transactions involving this property that's at question  
9 today?

10 A. Yes.

11 Q. And were you involved in this matter from the  
12 very beginning?

13 A. Yes.

14 Q. Now, the person that we just talked about,  
15 Eric Martin, you are familiar with Mr. Martin?

16 A. Yes.

17 Q. And has Mr. Martin joined with you in  
18 attempting to incorporate U Lock?

19 A. Yes.

20 Q. When is it that you first tried to  
21 incorporate U Lock?

22 A. I think about six months before the closing.

23 Q. Okay. Did you sign a sales agreement to  
24 purchase this property?

25 A. Eric, I believe, did as incorporator for

1 U Lock.

2 Q. Did you attempt to incorporate the business  
3 prior to him going there to --

4 A. Yes.

5 Q. -- try and purchase the property to sign the  
6 sales agreement?

7 A. Yes.

8 Q. And how did you do that?

9 A. There were several sales agreements along the  
10 way because there were, like I said, a few different  
11 extensions. I'm sorry. What's your question?

12 Q. Mainly, when did you incorporate with regard  
13 to the sequence of events that happened here? When did  
14 you attempt to incorporate?

15 A. The first time we had done it online. I  
16 believe Kash and Eric Martin did it online the day  
17 before the closing.

18 Q. You were involved and talked to them about  
19 that because you were one of the incorporators; correct?

20 A. Yes.

21 Q. When you did that online, did you have any  
22 belief as to whether or not you would be incorporated as  
23 a result of doing that?

24 A. We thought it was successful. We thought it  
25 was done.

1 Q. Did you determine later that it turned out  
2 not to be successful?

3 A. Yes.

4 Q. After you determined it wasn't successful,  
5 did you then continue to make the corporation actually  
6 happen later?

7 A. Yes.

8 Q. Did you get the paperwork?

9 A. Yes.

10 Q. With regard to you purchasing this property,  
11 or U Lock purchasing this property, did you have  
12 discussions with anybody that might be a partner in the  
13 business with you?

14 A. Yes.

15 Q. Whom?

16 A. John Biros.

17 Q. Do you know how John Biros is related to the  
18 woman that just testified?

19 A. Yes.

20 Q. How?

21 A. They are siblings.

22 Q. When you discussed this with John Biros, did  
23 you and he come up with an agreement -- not a written  
24 agreement, but a verbal agreement -- how this was going  
25 to happen?

1 A. For quite a long time. About a year we  
2 agreed verbally to a whole bunch of things.

3 Q. Okay. Tell us what the agreement was between  
4 you and him verbally?

5 A. We were -- the property was worth, we feel,  
6 substantially more than \$300,000. He approached me one  
7 day and said he wanted to be a partner and that his  
8 family would put up the money. There was one  
9 stipulation. He said he wanted his brother, Andy,  
10 involved also. I agreed and said that's not a problem.  
11 I knew Andy since I was a kid. I said that's fine. So  
12 we were both on board and interested. They thought the  
13 terms were fair. I did too. We spent about a year -- I  
14 think it may have been six months to a year before the  
15 closing where we got together and tried to make the  
16 closing happen.

17 Q. When it came time to make the purchase, did  
18 the brother indicate to you that he wanted you to deal  
19 with someone else in his family?

20 A. Also several months before the closing,  
21 Christine and I and John talked about this several times  
22 about how they were going to get the money and that sort  
23 of thing. There were a couple of ways they were going  
24 to pursue getting the money. So we talked about that  
25 for several months. I met with them approximately --

1 several times a week. But at least every Wednesday I  
2 met with them for a year.

3 Q. Did you sign the agreement that said that you  
4 would repay this money?

5 A. No. Kash signed that.

6 Q. So that's your brother?

7 A. For U Lock.

8 Q. It was signed by your brother and you agreed  
9 that would you would repay this money; is that correct?

10 A. Our verbal agreement up until that point,  
11 that wasn't the case. We were always supposed to be  
12 partners. Unbeknownst to me, on the way -- so the  
13 closing was a certain time. I believe I was on time for  
14 the closing, but they were late. They were out getting  
15 the checks. They drove together. John, Christine, and  
16 my brother Kash drove together. I think Kash or someone  
17 called me from the car and said can you come out to the  
18 parking lot? So we have never talked about this  
19 agreement you have there prior to this.

20 Christine said, hey, can you do me a favor  
21 just -- can you sign something just to protect me until  
22 we iron out the details? I wasn't prepared for the  
23 closing here today. Can you sign something? I said,  
24 yes, and Kash signed it.

25 Q. You agreed to do that?

1 A. Yes.

2 Q. And you did sign it, so you agreed to be  
3 responsible for the money ultimately; is that correct?

4 A. Correct.

5 Q. In terms of repaying this money, did you  
6 have -- what was your understanding about repaying it or  
7 were you still in a possible partnership agreement, or  
8 do you know what happened?

9 A. I thought we were still in a partnership  
10 agreement. I still continued to meet with them several  
11 times a week. Every Wednesday -- sometimes John and I  
12 almost daily. We would get together and get lunch or go  
13 to the property or I would go see them at their bar. I  
14 would ask -- you know, they didn't want repaid. It was  
15 a partner. At one time Christine asked if I could repay  
16 it. I said I can get the money. I could give you your  
17 money back. She replies -- and I said so John wants out  
18 of the partnership? She said, no, you should be out of  
19 it. I said, well, if I buy you out or pay the amount,  
20 then he would no longer be a partner. She said, well,  
21 wait a minute. We might still be partners. Let me talk  
22 to John.

23 They went back and forth for almost two  
24 years. That was the first demand. That second letter  
25 you put in was in 2017, was the first time they asked

1 for a payment. So up until then, we were behaving like  
2 partners.

3 Q. On the day of closing, where did the money  
4 come from?

5 A. Christine loaned it to me.

6 Q. And she had you sign the agreement?

7 A. For U Lock.

8 Q. Before she did that?

9 A. Yes.

10 Q. And then you took the money and purchased the  
11 property, and you purchased it in U Lock's name;  
12 correct?

13 A. Correct.

14 Q. You actually have deeds, don't you, which  
15 transfer this to U Lock; is that correct?

16 A. Yes.

17 Q. I'm going to show you several documents here.  
18 I'm going to show you what's been marked as Defendant's  
19 Exhibits C, D, E and F and ask if you can identify what  
20 those are?

21 A. They look like deeds filed March of 2018 for  
22 the four different deeds for the property that U Lock  
23 purchased.

24 Q. You had not gotten the deeds prior to that  
25 time; is that correct?

1 A. We had the deeds -- I believe we received the  
2 deeds at the closing, if my memory is correct. But we  
3 didn't record them until later.

4 Q. You later recorded the deeds which were at  
5 the closing and that's what you were trying to  
6 accomplish?

7 A. Correct.

8 MR. ROTH: I'm going to ask that each of  
9 these be introduced into evidence, Your Honor.

10 THE COURT: Any objection?

11 MR. OTTO: Are they one exhibit?

12 THE COURT: They are four separate.

13 MR. ROTH: C, D, E and F.

14 MR. OTTO: Can you identify because  
15 there's dates from four --

16 THE COURT: You know what, Mr. Otto, if  
17 you want to approach, he has them marked up here. That  
18 way you will know.

19 MR. OTTO: Okay. Thank you, Your Honor.

20 THE COURT: Sir, will you hand those to  
21 me?

22 MR. ROTH: I would ask they be  
23 introduced, Your Honor.

24 THE COURT: Any objection?

25 MR. OTTO: No, Your Honor.

1 THE COURT: There being no objection,  
2 Defendant's Exhibit C, D, E and F are individually moved  
3 into evidence without objection.

4 Anything further, Mr. Roth?

5 | BY MR. ROTH:

6 Q. Do you agree that you still owe this money,  
7 or U Lock, or someone, owes this money to Christine  
8 Biros?

9 A. Yes, I do.

10 Q. Are you attempting to try and make  
11 arrangements to pay that back?

12 A. Well, yes. We could at any time that the lis  
13 pendens -- the deed makes it difficult.

14 Q. Okay. Are you willing to attempt to get that  
15 money together to pay her?

16 | A.                    Absolutely.

17 Q. Do you have people that want to become  
18 involved in your corporation, after this lawsuit is  
19 over, that would give you money to be able to pay her  
20 off?

21 A. A whole list of people are very interested.

22 MR. ROTH: I have no further questions,  
23 Your Honor.

24 THE COURT: Cross-examination at this  
25 time, Mr. Otto?

1 MR. OTTO: Yes, I do, Your Honor.

2 \* \* \*

3 CROSS-EXAMINATION

4 BY MR. OTTO:

5 Q. Mr. Snyder, if I understand your testimony,  
6 your position that you are a de facto corporation is  
7 based on your contention that you acted or U Lock acted  
8 as a corporation even prior to July of 2015; is that  
9 correct?

10 A. I'm not sure. I just related my involvement  
11 to my attorney and he mentioned de facto corporation.

12 Q. He came up with the theory of de facto  
13 corporation?

14 A. Well, he's my counsel.

15 Q. That's what I am asking.

16 A. I don't understand the legal -- you know,  
17 exactly everything.

18 Q. He prepared all of the materials that you  
19 filed; right?

20 A. He's my attorney. Any question like that, if  
21 I don't understand it, then I can --

22 Q. I'm confused. Just yes or no?

23 A. Yes, sir.

24 Q. To your knowledge, did anybody other than  
25 Mr. Roth prepare any of the filings?

1 A. To my knowledge, I don't know who -- it's him  
2 and a paralegal.

3 Q. Just a yes or no?

4 A. Not to my knowledge.

5 Q. To your knowledge, nobody other than Mr. Roth  
6 prepared all of the documentation?

7 A. Correct.

8 Q. Okay. Well, let's talk about any actions  
9 that you might have made to conform to that standard of  
10 acting as a corporation. All through the pleadings  
11 those claims have been made, that you did act -- that  
12 U Lock did in fact act as a corporation?

13 A. Yes.

14 Q. Did you have any financial statements?

15 A. We included in the discovery the rent roles,  
16 things like that.

17 Q. That's just rent roles. Did you have  
18 financial statements?

19 A. The bank statements from Citizen's Bank?  
20 Those types of statements?

21 Q. When was that bank opened?

22 A. I don't recall the date.

23 Q. I can tell you when it is. I have -- which  
24 was provided to me in discovery. I will give you a copy  
25 if you want to look at it, but it says beginning

1 September 17th, 2015. This is from your discovery. So  
2 that's after the closing date; correct?

3 A. The date you said it is, yes.

4 Q. Have you filed tax returns? Has U Lock filed  
5 any tax returns?

6 A. None.

7 Q. None?

8 A. Not that I'm aware of.

9 Q. You have been in operation since 2014 as a de  
10 facto corporation? So now, 2019, five years later, you  
11 never filed a tax return?

12 A. Correct.

13 Q. You have over 800 shareholders. Have you  
14 ever issued stock certificates to any of them?

15 A. I'm not sure. I believe they do. I'm not  
16 sure.

17 Q. You are an officer and director of U Lock.  
18 Wouldn't they get the stock certificates from U Lock?

19 A. I'm not aware of whether they have them or  
20 not.

21 Q. Have you mailed them?

22 A. Personally me? No.

23 Q. Do you know who would have mailed them?

24 A. I don't know if my brother Kash would have.  
25 I don't think so though.

1 Q. So if I get him on the stand and ask him the  
2 question, he will say that he mailed them?

3 A. That's not what I said. I said I don't think  
4 he did.

5 Q. So to the best of your knowledge, no share  
6 certificates have been sent out; is that correct?

7 A. Possibly --

8 Q. To the best of your --

9 A. But that's not --

10 THE COURT: One at a time, okay?

11 MR. OTTO: I'm sorry. I will slow down.

12 THE COURT: Anything further you want to  
13 say to that answer?

14 THE WITNESS: No.

15 BY MR. OTTO:

16 Q. Have you sent out tax reports, Form 1099s, to  
17 any of the shareholders?

18 A. No.

19 Q. Do you have insurance on the property?

20 A. No.

21 Q. No liability for the --

22 A. No, we don't.

23 Q. No insurance on a property worth over  
24 \$300,000?

25 A. Correct.

1 Q. One of the things I requested in discovery  
2 was copies of bylaws and corporate minutes. The  
3 response was you couldn't find them. Have you found  
4 those?

5 A. No.

6 Q. Do you know that they exist?

7 A. I believe they exist. They may be in one of  
8 my boxes over there. I brought four boxes that I looked  
9 through --

10 Q. If you have --

11 A. -- but I can't find anything.

12 THE COURT: One at a time, please.

13 MR. OTTO: Sorry, Your Honor.

14 BY MR. OTTO:

15 Q. If you had them, you were required to provide  
16 them. If I don't have them, they must not exist?

17 A. I wasn't aware we were going to trial until  
18 Friday. I worked diligently this weekend to try and  
19 gather as much as I could.

20 Q. But my request for those documents, my first  
21 one was in October of last year, my second one was in  
22 February or January of this year. So you certainly had  
23 plenty of time. We are in April now. I'm assuming they  
24 don't exist. Do you disagree with that?

25 A. I don't necessarily -- you can assume what

1 you want to assume. I don't...

2 Q. Okay. You made claims that you had a  
3 shareholders agreement or some kind of agreement between  
4 you and your brother and Mr. Martin. Do you have a copy  
5 of that in writing?

6 A. Did we provide that in discovery?

7 Q. No.

8 A. Hm. I don't have that then either.

9 Q. I'm trying to figure out what exactly did you  
10 do prior to the closing date to justify calling yourself  
11 a de facto corporation?

12 A. About a year prior to that, we operated that  
13 way. We signed the sales agreement to that effect.  
14 Then we signed another sales agreement to that effect.  
15 And then a few months later, we signed another one to  
16 that effect.

17 Q. What sales agreement?

18 A. Sales agreement from the estates to U Lock,  
19 Inc.

20 Q. The agreement that your counsel provided  
21 earlier?

22 A. Yes.

23 Q. All that says is from Eric to Eric Martin as  
24 Incorporator. That's to an individual.

25 A. As incorporator for U Lock, Inc.

1 Q. But he was an individual.

2 A. I think we had several sales agreements I  
3 believe that were subsequent ones that we had that were  
4 signed under U Lock, Inc.

5 Q. If I recall Mr. Moore, he will say that there  
6 were at least two maybe three sales agreements?

7 A. To my recollection I think so, or extensions  
8 or something. At some point then, Eric Martin had  
9 assigned his rights as director over to my brother,  
10 Kash. And Kash signed documents. We did things like no  
11 lien letters at the township and tax certifications and  
12 did a bunch of things leading up to the closing all  
13 under U Lock, Inc.

14 Q. So you basically represented to a lot of  
15 people that U Lock had been formed, but you said you  
16 didn't file anything until the day before the closing.  
17 So what did you do prior to that date?

18 A. Well, like I said earlier, I think six months  
19 or a year before that, I thought we applied online at  
20 that time for U Lock.

21 Q. You think you did?

22 A. Yeah.

23 Q. Did you do it or somebody else?

24 A. I think my brother, Kash, did, but I think I  
25 was there when he did it.

1 Q. Who is Samantha McKee?

2 A. Ex-girlfriend of mine that was going to be  
3 involved in this, and she applied for one previous to  
4 the day of the closing I think.

5 Q. Do you have a copy of that?

6 A. I thought we provided it in the discovery.

7 Q. No.

8 A. She applied, I think, online for U Lock for  
9 that name also.

10 Q. I will tell you -- I will be happy to show  
11 them to you, but I will tell you that the only two  
12 filings I was able to find online were the first filing  
13 that you had, which was rejected, and the second one  
14 that was effective in September of 2015. So if you  
15 filed something else, it's not of record --

16 A. I know they --

17 Q. -- unless your attorney has something?

18 A. I know they sent something back, but we got  
19 it months later. It was after that September date when  
20 we got a number approved by the state. Sometime after  
21 that, we received something in the mail. It was  
22 crinkled up. It was a rejection letter saying something  
23 about our previous filing was rejected because the  
24 articles of the corporation were fine. But in the  
25 docketing statements, there was one blank that asked the

1 nature of the business and we left that blank. They  
2 rejected it for that reason.

3 Q. You are saying that they didn't respond to  
4 you in a timely manner through the U.S. mail because you  
5 didn't receive it?

6 A. What I said is what I said. But what my  
7 point was was when we filed that the date before the  
8 closing, we were under the assumption everything was  
9 okay. We were acting as U Lock, and we had successfully  
10 completed it on the computer the day before. That  
11 turned out not to be the case.

12 Q. You have made several statements that you  
13 tried to reach, or you did reach, an agreement with John  
14 Biros and Christine Biros for them to become investors.  
15 Do you have anything in writing to the effect?

16 A. No. That was all verbal for about a year or  
17 so.

18 Q. You understand if I call them, they are going  
19 to disagree that -- or at least Ms. Biros will disagree  
20 that she ever agreed to being a shareholder?

21 A. Yeah.

22 Q. I will be happy to do that, but you  
23 understand that's going to happen?

24 A. I'm aware they are not being truthful in all  
25 of this -- a lot of this paperwork I received.

1 Q. We are going to get to truthful in a few  
2 minutes, Mr. Snyder. Let's see. You made some claims  
3 in some of the pleadings -- first of all, let me ask you  
4 this. There have been a number of filings in this case.  
5 There were answers, there were preliminary objections,  
6 and briefs related to preliminary objections, there were  
7 two petitions, and there were discovery requests. Did  
8 you provide information to Mr. Roth for that, or how did  
9 those come to be prepared?

10 A. I gave Mr. Roth all of the information I had.  
11 We have talked about things that --

12 Q. Did anybody else give him information?

13 A. Possibly my sister or my brother. Any  
14 information we had or paperwork we had, I provided him  
15 with boxes of paperwork.

16 Q. If there's anything that's not accurate in  
17 those pleadings, is it Mr. Roth who is not telling the  
18 truth, or is it you?

19 A. I'm not sure exactly what -- I provided him  
20 with information. I made certain statements. He put  
21 things in there, so I don't know what specifically you  
22 are referring to.

23 Q. Well, in the amended answer to the complaint  
24 of new matter that was filed on your behalf on September  
25 21st, it says: To the contrary of said funds -- and

1 this refers to Ms. Biros, money that she paid -- such  
2 funds were paid on behalf of U Lock which said funds  
3 being a loan to U Lock, Inc. That kind of flies in the  
4 face of your statement that you intended it to be an  
5 investment all along, doesn't it?

6 A. I think that goes to show their dishonesty.  
7 We were supposed to be a partnership the whole time.  
8 Now I realize looking back the day of the closing, when  
9 everybody was waiting there, Mr. Tumolo, or one of the  
10 attorneys, I remember had prior engagements in  
11 Pittsburgh or something. They were ready to walk away.  
12 They had me run out there and sign this paper real  
13 quick. At that point, I guess, looking back it became a  
14 loan at that point. Everything we discussed for a year,  
15 now it's changed to a loan. That's not dishonesty on my  
16 part. They changed the game in the middle.

17 Q. You have nothing in writing to demonstrate  
18 any agreement on the part of John or Christine that it  
19 was an investment?

20 A. Yes.

21 Q. The only documentation that is out there is  
22 that it's a loan?

23 A. That's correct. That's why I said I realized  
24 it change to a loan that day we signed the paper.

25 Q. Okay. Now the reason I ask you the question

1 about who provided the information is because -- and  
2 your attorney can back this up if you have any  
3 questions -- but every pleading that's filed of a  
4 factual nature is required to be verified by a party who  
5 has direct knowledge of that. Out of 14 filings by  
6 U Lock, 12 of them were signed by Mr. Roth. So is he  
7 responsible for anything that's wrong in the pleadings,  
8 or is that you?

9 A. I'm not sure what you mean exactly. I don't  
10 know who is responsible. I know we filed a whole lot of  
11 paperwork. If I made a mistake in something, I guess  
12 maybe I would be responsible. If I signed it, I'm  
13 responsible. If he signed something, he's responsible.  
14 I'm not sure.

15 Q. Well, he signed for everything so I don't  
16 know whether he's taking responsibility for it or not.  
17 But let's go on. You agreed -- well, first of all, in  
18 Ms. Biros's complaint, she alleged that you made  
19 substantial sums of money from the operation of the  
20 property. In two of your pleadings you agreed that you  
21 did, in fact, make substantial funds from that. Later  
22 in two of your pleadings, you said that wasn't true. So  
23 did you or didn't you? Was it wrong the first two times  
24 or the second two times?

25 A. I would not define the amount of money coming

1       in there substantial, especially in lieu of the fact  
2       that you had mentioned you charged 18 percent interest  
3       or we paid 9 percent interest. Then certainly the  
4       property doesn't make a substantial amount of money, if  
5       that's what you mean. Are you asking me to clarify the  
6       word substantial?

7       Q.           I said that we believe you made substantial  
8       money?

9       A.           I recall that.

10      Q.           The first two answers you admitted that, yes,  
11       indeed you did. Later you said, no, you didn't and in  
12       fact you were loosing money. Well, even if you say  
13       substantial is undefined, that's different from nothing.  
14       So the question is which is true in the pleading, the  
15       first one or the second one?

16      A.           Well, I guess it's interpreted by -- I spoke  
17       with Christine about it. She -- one time we were  
18       talking at the bar and she said it was very -- she was  
19       upset that we are making all kinds of money up there,  
20       and she knows we're making money, and she wants money.  
21       So I guess she felt that was substantial. I told her  
22       that -- exactly what we were making, which is in our  
23       responses. At this time, I don't consider that to be  
24       substantial based on the mortgage that will be -- or  
25       what the bank loan will be if we have to pay them back.

1 Q. You say you have got people very interested  
2 in advancing money once the lis pendens is gone and this  
3 lawsuit is over. Why would anybody advance money to you  
4 when you have no financial records to show for how the  
5 property is operated? You don't have financial  
6 statements, you don't have tax returns?

7 A. There's not a substantial amount of money  
8 coming into the business. The business isn't worth --  
9 not just the property. The property itself is worth  
10 several times what we paid for it.

11 Q. Do you have an appraisal?

12 A. The there was an appraisal done. I don't  
13 have one to that effect.

14 Q. What was it appraised for?

15 A. I don't recall.

16 Q. I'm sorry. Did you have it appraised --

17 A. No.

18 Q. -- or did somebody else have it appraised?

19 A. I forget. I know Christine Biros and John  
20 Biros were talking to S&T Bank. She said the bank  
21 lady -- I think her name was Sue, but I'm not sure --  
22 said she road past the property and said it's worth  
23 twice that all day long. It wasn't an appraisal.

24 That's where we kind of got that the property was worth  
25 more than \$300,000.

1 Q. If there's a statement in the pleadings --

2 A. Yes.

3 Q. -- and it's not accurate, would you agree  
4 that that's a lie? Generally?

5 A. No. It could be a mistake. There was so  
6 much paperwork and so many questions answered. I was  
7 bombarded with you guys with discovery, then a second  
8 discovery. Sometimes I was up late at night doing it,  
9 sometimes I'm looking for papers, looking for receipts  
10 or checks and different things. I honestly put my best  
11 foot forward to answer your questions and be truthful  
12 with everything. I absolutely didn't lie about  
13 anything. I'm human. I may have made a mistake, but  
14 there was never anything that's a lie.

15 Q. Well, let me read the last statement. This  
16 is the verification. By the way, this is one Mr. Roth  
17 signed. In a sense he is hanging out there. It says  
18 facts contained herein are true and correct to the best  
19 knowledge, information or belief. This verification is  
20 made subject to the penalties 18 Pa.C.S. 4904 relating  
21 to unsworn falsifications to authorities.

22 If you make the same mistake over and over  
23 again -- I mean, a typo is a typo. Anybody can make  
24 those. But if you make a statement on more than one  
25 occasion, which is demonstratively false -- and I'm

1 asking a simple yes or no question -- is that a lie?

2 A. I don't know what statement you are referring  
3 to.

4 Q. Well, I will tell you in a minute. But  
5 generally speaking, is that a lie?

6 A. I'm not going to say I lied.

7 Q. Well, I will tell you that in the pleadings,  
8 in a number of places, you stated that U Lock paid  
9 \$30,000 when, in fact, we have already established that  
10 even though U Lock, through Mr. Martin, advanced  
11 \$30,000, at the end of the day U Lock paid nothing for  
12 this property. Remember that you are under oath to tell  
13 the truth the whole truth and nothing but the truth, do  
14 you agree that U Lock paid nothing for this property?

15 A. No. I do not agree. U Lock -- well, I guess  
16 U Lock has spent almost equal that on assets, fork  
17 lifts, excavators, and all kinds of things that came  
18 with the property. The property itself, the land  
19 itself, I think in the earlier thing said \$30,000. I  
20 think we corrected that later. I let my attorney know  
21 that we had -- Eric Martin had gotten that check back  
22 because there seemed to be confusion on how that went so  
23 I explained exactly how that went to my attorney. I  
24 believe that was corrected at some point. It was not a  
25 lie. It was clarified at some point.

1 Q. Let me ask this question again. I appreciate  
2 the answer, but it didn't answer my question. So let me  
3 ask the question one more time. For the purchase of  
4 this property -- I'm not asking about any other things  
5 you have done -- for the purchase of this property, did  
6 U Lock pay anything? Yes or no?

7 A. U Lock borrowed the money from Christine  
8 Biros and that's -- she secured the funds to purchase  
9 the property.

10 THE COURT: Sir, with all due respect,  
11 its a yes or no answer.

12 THE WITNESS: Oh, I'm sorry.

13 BY MR. OTTO:

14 Q. Did U Lock pay anything for the property?

15 A. No.

16 MR. OTTO: Thank you. Your Honor, I have  
17 no more questions.

18 THE COURT: Any redirect?

19 MR. ROTH: Nothing further.

20 THE COURT: Sir, you may stand down and  
21 return back to counsel table.

22 At this time, it's about 20 after 12:00.  
23 I think it's appropriate to break for lunch and return  
24 at 1:30. We will return back and you can all get lunch.  
25 We will resume at that time. Be prepared with your next

1 witness or however you are going to move forward.

2 MR. ROTH: All right thank you.

3 THE COURT: Thank you.

4 (PROCEEDINGS RECESSED -- 12:16 P.M.)

5 (PROCEEDINGS RECONVENED -- 1:35 P.M.)

6 THE COURT: Mr. Roth, your next witness?

7 MR. OTTO: Before we start, Your Honor,  
8 just an administrative matter --

9 THE COURT: Okay. Hold on. We are going  
10 to go back on the record. Go ahead.

11 MR. OTTO: During the lunch break,  
12 Mr. Moore found a couple of documents in his records,  
13 which he shared with Mr. Roth and I. Two of them are  
14 better copies of what you have already had, and I think  
15 with Mr. Roth's agreement, we would like to substitute  
16 them. The third one, I think Mr. Roth would like to  
17 introduce -- I have no objection -- this is the  
18 assignment.

19 THE COURT: So that's a new one?

20 MR. ROTH: Yes.

21 MR. OTTO: We discussed and I have no  
22 objection to it, Your Honor.

23 THE COURT: So Defendant's Exhibit G will  
24 be so moved into evidence without objection. The bet  
25 copies of the plaintiff's records will be substituted

1 for those already admitted into evidence at this time.

2 At this time, Mr. Roth, next witness?

3 MR. ROTH: I call Kash Snyder, please.

4 THE COURT: Okay. Raise your right hand,  
5 please.

6

7 KASH SNYDER, having been

8 first duly sworn, was examined

9 and testified as follows:

10

11 THE COURT: Thank you, sir. You may get  
12 situated.

13 \* \* \*

14 DIRECT EXAMINATION

15 BY MR. ROTH:

16 Q. Would you state your name please?

17 A. Kash Snyder.

18 Q. Tell us how to spell Kash?

19 A. K-a-s-h.

20 Q. All right. Your brother is George who  
21 testified earlier; is that correct?

22 A. Correct.

23 Q. Have you been involved in the transactions  
24 involving this piece of property the whole time this is  
25 has been going on?

1 A. I have.

2 Q. We heard testimony earlier that there's been  
3 no tax returns filed. Can you tell us about that and  
4 why that's the case?

5 A. The reason is because -- well, collectively  
6 seeing an accountant on the matter, he felt that we  
7 should not do it because there's no profit. There are  
8 losses and it would be complicated at this point, but in  
9 the following year, the next year coming up, that we  
10 should.

11 Q. You haven't filed any tax returns yet and  
12 you're saying because there's been no profit yet to be  
13 reported for tax purposes?

14 A. That's correct.

15 Q. Were you at the closing for this matter?

16 A. I was.

17 Q. And Ms. Biros was at the closing?

18 A. That's correct. We drove together.

19 Q. You went in together?

20 A. Correct.

21 Q. Were all of you getting along well at that  
22 time?

23 A. Yes. We are like long friends.

24 Q. Was it a shock to you when they came out with  
25 this document they wanted your brother to sign saying

1 that he owed her the money?

2 A. It was news to me, or -- say it again. I'm  
3 sorry.

4 Q. Was it a shock to you or unusual?

5 A. Yes. Sorry. I was confusing the day of the  
6 closing to this -- yeah, it was.

7 MR. ROTH: That's all the questions I  
8 have, Judge.

9 THE COURT: Cross-examination?

10 \* \* \*

11 CROSS-EXAMINATION

12 BY MR. OTTO:

13 Q. Mr. Snyder, who is the accountant you got  
14 this advice from?

15 A. A gentleman in White Oak named Marino. Calls  
16 himself little Trump.

17 Q. In light of the fact that federal tax laws  
18 require every existing entity to file tax returns,  
19 profit or no profit, doesn't this advice seem a little  
20 strange to you?

21 A. It didn't seem to me, but I'm advised to move  
22 forward and do them so.

23 Q. Did you get Mr. Marino's opinion in writing  
24 that you didn't have to file or shouldn't have to file?

25 A. No.

1 Q. Who -- this is the document that you signed?

2 A. That's correct.

3 Q. Is that your handwriting?

4 A. It's my handwriting. Yes.

5 Q. So you wrote this out?

6 A. I took it -- I dictated -- I'm sorry. I took  
7 it from dictation. It was the three of us, John,  
8 Christine and I in her vehicle. They handed me paper,  
9 dictated, and I wrote it and I signed it.

10 Q. So it's not your language?

11 A. Correct.

12 Q. Who dictated it?

13 A. I can't recall. I would think it's mostly  
14 John, but it was probably -- it may have been the both  
15 of them. But I can't be sure.

16 Q. Was George in the car at the time?

17 A. He drove separately.

18 Q. At the time you signed this, was he in the  
19 car with you?

20 A. No.

21 Q. He wasn't?

22 A. Correct.

23 Q. Did you sit in the front seat or back seat?

24 A. Back seat. Back passenger side.

25 Q. Did you go to law school?

1 A. I did.

2 Q. Did you graduate?

3 A. I did.

4 Q. Did you take the bar exam?

5 A. No. I did not go to get a juris doctorate.

6 I have a masters degree in corporate law.

7 Q. Where did you get that?

8 A. University of Pittsburgh School of Law.

9 Q. A masters degree in law, but you don't have a

10 juris doctor?

11 A. That's correct.

12 Q. So you can't take the bar exam?

13 A. That's correct.

14 Q. But you have a legal background of sorts?

15 A. It would be a matter of opinion, but I did

16 graduate from law school.

17 Q. So you understand the impact of writing out a

18 document that says U Lock will repay this?

19 A. I absolutely do.

20 Q. You can't step back and say, well, I didn't

21 really mean what I said?

22 A. I never tried to do that. No.

23 Q. Let me ask some of the same questions I asked

24 your brother. You haven't filed tax returns. What's

25 your position within the corporation? Are you

1 secretary?

2 A. No, I'm listed as an officer.

3 Q. Okay. Just officer or does it -- every  
4 corporation is required to have a president, secretary  
5 and treasurer. Are you one of those?

6 A. I am not.

7 Q. Who are the secretary, treasurer and  
8 president?

9 A. I don't know that we have that established.  
10 Typically when I sign on something, I sign director.

11 Q. You have been in that existence since  
12 September of 2015?

13 A. A little earlier.

14 Q. You contend earlier, but that means no later  
15 than -- you still don't have a president, secretary or  
16 treasurer?

17 A. Admittedly it's a little unsophisticated.

18 Q. Well, it's not just unsophisticated. You are  
19 violating Pennsylvania corporation law; right?

20 A. I don't --

21 Q. I mean, you have a law background?

22 A. I do. But I can't -- I don't know -- it's  
23 been 2013 since I graduated and it's use it or lose it.  
24 I don't do too much legally.

25 Q. Would you say you're in compliance with the

1 corporation law?

2 A. I don't know that.

3 Q. Did you ever prepare minutes for the  
4 corporation?

5 A. I never did.

6 Q. You did not?

7 A. I did not.

8 Q. How about bylaws?

9 A. Worked on them, I believe, but I don't know  
10 that anything was complete.

11 Q. Okay. To your knowledge, did anybody help  
12 Mr. Roth with the pleadings and the documents that have  
13 been filed?

14 A. To my knowledge, no. I know his paralegal  
15 and George and my sister have been helpful.

16 Q. What involvement did your sister have in all  
17 of this?

18 A. Just like you said helping with the  
19 documents.

20 Q. But she's not a shareholder, director,  
21 officer?

22 A. Correct.

23 Q. Is she like a friend of the court?

24 A. No. She's a loved one, I guess, you know.

25 Q. What's her background?

1 A. Nothing. Nothing legal if that's what you're  
2 asking. She's just a run-of-the-mill layman.

3 Q. What involvement did she have in the company?

4 A. None in the company.

5 Q. But she helped write pleadings including  
6 factual statements that were made?

7 A. She may have.

8 Q. Okay.

9 MR. OTTO: Your Honor, I have no more  
10 questions.

11 THE COURT: Any redirect?

12 MR. ROTH: No redirect.

13 THE COURT: Sir, you may stand down.

14 Any further witnesses?

15 MR. ROTH: No further witnesses, Your  
16 Honor.

17 THE COURT: Do you rest?

18 MR. ROTH: Yes.

19 THE COURT: Your case is still open. Do  
20 you rest or do you have any rebuttal?

21 MR. OTTO: I have one rebuttal witness.

22 THE COURT: Sure.

23 MR. OTTO: Christine Biros.

24 THE COURT: Ma'am, you have already been  
25 sworn. You may take the witness stand.

1 THE WITNESS: Thank you.

2 \* \* \*

3 REDIRECT EXAMINATION

4 BY MR. OTTO:

5 Q. Mr. Snyder, George Snyder, testified that he  
6 had multiple discussions with you concerning the issue  
7 of you becoming a shareholder. Was that ever anything  
8 you considered?

9 A. Never.

10 Q. Would you be a shareholder?

11 A. No.

12 Q. Do you consider the money that you paid as an  
13 investment of any sort for you or your brother John?

14 A. No.

15 MR. OTTO: Thank you. No further  
16 questions.

17 MR. ROTH: No questions.

18 THE COURT: Thank you, ma'am, you may  
19 stand down.

20 Do you rest at this time?

21 MR. OTTO: I rest, Your Honor. Thank  
22 you.

23 THE COURT: Mr. Roth, would you like to  
24 make a closing argument?

25 MR. ROTH: Yes, I would.

1                   Even if it's correct that the corporation  
2 was not in place at the time of the initial deeds, which  
3 is some of what they are complaining about, it doesn't  
4 fall automatically that they would somehow receive the  
5 property. If anything, they should be able to sue in  
6 law to rescind their loan contract and get their money  
7 back.

8                   An action, the quiet title, is not the  
9 appropriate remedy because there's all kinds of remedies  
10 in law. There's promissory note, counta meruit, there's  
11 money had and received, and there's other common law  
12 actions available to them. The quiet title action goes  
13 far beyond any of those.

14                  What this really is -- if I lent you  
15 \$20,000 and you went out and bought a car, I can't make  
16 a claim for your car. I can make a claim for my \$20,000  
17 back. That's what this case is about. She lent the  
18 money. They used the money to buy something, and now  
19 she is saying I deserve to have that because I gave them  
20 the money to buy it. She wasn't involved in the  
21 process. She did not have an ownership interest in it.  
22 She didn't get anything at the closing. She got nothing  
23 at all. So she never had an ownership interest in the  
24 property. Therefore, now, she shouldn't be able to say  
25 I should have this property because I gave them money

1 that enabled them to buy it.

2                   With regard to the corporation -- and I  
3 don't think it really matters whether the corporation  
4 was formed immediately or not because I believe you do  
5 have a de facto corporation here because they filed  
6 papers believing that they were incorporated, and then  
7 they acted upon the corporation, and they ultimately  
8 concluded the corporation and there is a corporation.  
9 Therefore, I believe that if you -- whether or not this  
10 corporation was formed or not, it's still a loan. Since  
11 it's a loan, they can do what they choose with the money  
12 and she can now try and collect on that loan and I  
13 believe that's the lawsuit she should have filed here.

14                   THE COURT: Okay. Thank you.

15                   Mr. Otto, you get the final word.

16                   MR. OTTO: Thank you.

17                   Your Honor, as I said at the beginning of  
18 this trial, it's really a simple situation made more  
19 confusing by the actions of Defendant U Lock. Simply  
20 stated, Christine Biros paid for the property in full.  
21 U Lock paid nothing, even though they advanced funds,  
22 they got all of it back. They still have paid nothing.  
23 In fact, they have even refused to acknowledge in  
24 writing that they have an obligation to repay.

25                   At the time of the closing, U Lock didn't

1 exist. So the Pennsylvania law provides that the deeds  
2 are void ab initio. I have a memorandum of law that I  
3 will provide to you, Your Honor, to explain that  
4 further. But our claim against the estate has always  
5 been for the property. It has never been for any  
6 monetary damages.

7 Our position and the reason we proceeded  
8 the way we did is very simple. We believed that we have  
9 an equitable claim for the title to the property.  
10 Because legal title to the real estate was never  
11 properly transferred, which under Pennsylvania law meant  
12 that the estates retained legal title. Because my  
13 client paid for the property, it's my view that she had  
14 legal title -- equitable title to the property. That's  
15 what we are asking for, to circle the loop and provide  
16 legal title.

17 U Lock has had four years plus to get  
18 money or to agree to loan terms and refused. Never paid  
19 anything. They claim there's no money to be made. They  
20 haven't made any effort to file their taxes, so if they  
21 can't file their taxes and they are not afraid of  
22 Internal Revenue Services, they are certainly not afraid  
23 of us.

24 They now -- Mr. Roth suggested that they  
25 were ready to obtain financing if the lis pendens got

1 dropped. They have maintained that all of the time.  
2 But the fact of the matter is, it would not be difficult  
3 to set up a situation with a lender to simply say put  
4 money in escrow. When the money is in escrow and ready  
5 to be delivered subject to us releasing the lis pendens,  
6 we would have done that. We have made that offer on  
7 numerous occasions to Mr. Roth. He is aware of that.

8 Ms. Biros never had any intention or  
9 desire to be an investor. This was always an  
10 advancement of funds. Without financial tax returns and  
11 so forth, they are never going to get a commercial  
12 lender to deliver financing on this. So the situation  
13 right now is that money isn't available. The only thing  
14 that's available is the property. Defendants would ask  
15 us to start over and file a claim for money damages, but  
16 money is not there. So even if we had a judgment, we  
17 would wind up trying to foreclose or taking a judgment  
18 against the property, which is where we are right now.  
19 So if for no other reason than conservation of this  
20 Court's time, I think Mr. Roth's argument should be  
21 dismissed.

22 What we ask for from the Court, I have a  
23 proposed order of court that the Court can use.  
24 Ultimately what we would like to have is have the  
25 property -- if you rule in our favor, have the property

1 transferred immediately. If the verdict is in our  
2 favor, we tend to ask for an appeal bond if there is an  
3 appeal made. But it's our desire to get the property  
4 transferred as soon as possible so we can get it cleaned  
5 up.

6 THE COURT: That's the proposed order?

7 MR. OTTO: The proposed, yes.

8 THE COURT: At this time, what I would  
9 like to have is, within the next 20 days, your  
10 conclusions of law and findings of fact. If you can  
11 prepare those for me in a proposed order of court --  
12 now, I'm getting that from Mr. Otto right now. He is  
13 giving me a memorandum on the lis pendens.

14 MR. OTTO: This is on the de facto  
15 corporation issue.

16 THE COURT: Understood. If you would  
17 like to do findings of fact and conclusions of law  
18 within 20 days proposed order for the outcome, what I  
19 will do is take those under consideration as well as  
20 testimony here given on the transcript and I have the  
21 rest of the file pulled. There's four portions to it.

22 I will take all of that under  
23 consideration, and we will then expediently try to get  
24 to an opinion and order of court for the outcome. You  
25 have 30 days thereafter because it will be a final order

1 of court if you should so desire to file an appeal. The  
2 Court will consider whether or not I believe an appeal  
3 bond is necessary. We will address that as well in the  
4 opinion and final order of court.

5 Mr. Moore and Mr. DelCotto -- the other  
6 gentleman is not here now -- as we indicated earlier, I  
7 would expect those deeds by May the 20th and, of course,  
8 the \$10,000 transfer as soon as possible.

9 Mr. Otto, as directed previously, that  
10 will be paid directly to the back taxes at the county  
11 tax office.

12 MR. OTTO: Yes, sir.

13 THE COURT: Anything further that anyone  
14 wants to put on the record.

15 (NO RESPONSE.)

16 THE COURT: Okay. Thank you. At this  
17 time, we are adjourned.

18 MR. OTTO: Thank you, Your Honor.

19 MR. ROTH: Thank you.

20 (PROCEEDINGS ADJOURNED -- 1:59 P.M.)

21

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23

24

25

1 C E R T I F I C A T E  
2  
3 \* \* \*  
4

5 I hereby certify that the proceedings are  
6 contained fully and accurately in the notes taken by me  
7 at the hearing of the within cause and that this copy is  
8 a true and correct transcript of the same.

9  
10 *Blake Schaum*  
11 \_\_\_\_\_  
12 Blake Schaum, Court Reporter  
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